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PATENT  
0505-0477P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Masaharu NAKAMORI et al.

Appl. No.: 09/217,633

Group: 1764

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For: METAL CARRIER FOR A CATALYST

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

October 24, 2001

Sir:

The following Preliminary Amendments and Remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

In the Claims:

Please ~~cancel~~ claim 3 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein and ~~add~~ the subject matter to claim 1 as follows:

- B1
1. (Twice Amended) A metal carrier for a catalyst comprising:
    - a honeycomb structure shaped in a cylindrical form, said honeycomb structure having a plurality of air vents extending in an axial direction thereof;
    - a cylindrical case covering an outer peripheral surface of the honeycomb structure, wherein the cylindrical case is composed of ferritic stainless steel containing Mo, said Mo content in the ferritic stainless steel is in the range of  $0.30 \text{ wt\%} \leq \text{Mo} \leq 2.50 \text{ wt\%}$ ;
    - a muffler housing, said cylindrical case being disposed within said muffler housing and being displaced a predetermined distance relative to an interior wall of the muffler housing to form a space therebetween;